

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Applicants request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn since the inventions, particularly those of Groups I and II, are closely enough related that the Office would wish to have the references relevant to one group in considering patentability of the other. Therefore, it would not appear to be unduly burdensome for the claims to be examined together.

As requested, applicants enclose copies of the references cited in the IDS filed 2/15/02, together with copies of the IDS.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that the application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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